

A painting brought to life...



It was back in the 1740s that the Hyett family designed a garden here to delight guests at Painswick House.

The rococo style of the time came from the continent and was a flamboyant and risqué development of the baroque. An invitation to a party here might have seen you drinking at the Exedra, schmoozing by the pond or snuggling up with your lover in one of the fascinating follies. This was an outdoor room designed for pleasure of all sorts, furnished with plants and enhanced by fabulous framed views of the garden and surrounding landscape.

The garden was depicted in glorious detail by artist Thomas Robins in 1748 – see left. However, as fashions changed, the garden was redesigned and then eventually abandoned to woodland in the 1950s. The restoration of the garden was led by Lord and Lady Dickinson and started in earnest in 1984. Now run by an independent registered charity, every penny you donate and spend here helps us to continue the restoration of this unique and special place.

How the garden grows...

Painswick Rococo Garden Trust is a registered charity with the aim of promoting for public benefit the preservation, maintenance and improvement of the country's only surviving rococo garden as a place of historic and ecological interest and beauty.

The Garden is cared for by a committed team of staff and volunteers. If you have some time to spare and would like to find out more about joining our family, visit rococogarden.org.uk.

Future plans

The Trust is planning to leave its long-time base in the Coach House in 2022 and is in the process of finalising plans for a new home onsite.

If you would like to be kept up-to-date with our plans, please email info@rococogarden.org.uk to join our mailing list, or visit our website.

What is rococo?

Rococo was a style of art, architecture and the decorative arts originating in France and Italy in the 1700s. It is characterised by scroll-like forms ('C' and 'S' shapes), elaborate ornamentation, asymmetry (unbalanced forms, with a mix of straight and curved lines), playfulness and decoration for its own sake.

The term 'rococo' came to be used for a period of English garden design from 1740–1770 which applied the ornamentation and flamboyant spirit of the rococo to the design and layout of paths and flower beds as well as garden buildings and other structures. Rococo gardens were often small in scale (appealing to the nouveau riche and smaller landowners) and thus sought to create miniaturised landscapes.

Find out more in our new Guide Book, available to buy in our Shop.

Design for a chinoiserie-inspired pier-glass, John Linnell (1755–60)



Shell shaped pickle tray, Limehouse Porcelain Factory (c.1745–1748)



Armchair, Matthias Lock Sr. (1755)



Silver gilt ewer, Paul de Lamiere (1736)

Loved your visit?

If you have enjoyed your visit today, why not become a Friend of our beautiful Garden? It is a stunning place to visit in all seasons, with a rich horticultural display throughout the year.

As a Friend you will...

- Have unlimited access to the Garden during normal opening hours
- Receive regular newsletters
- Be invited to exclusive activities and events
- Support the upkeep and restoration of the only surviving complete rococo garden in England.

Pick up a membership application form from the welcome desk or download one online.

From only £26.50 for 12 months

rococogarden.org.uk

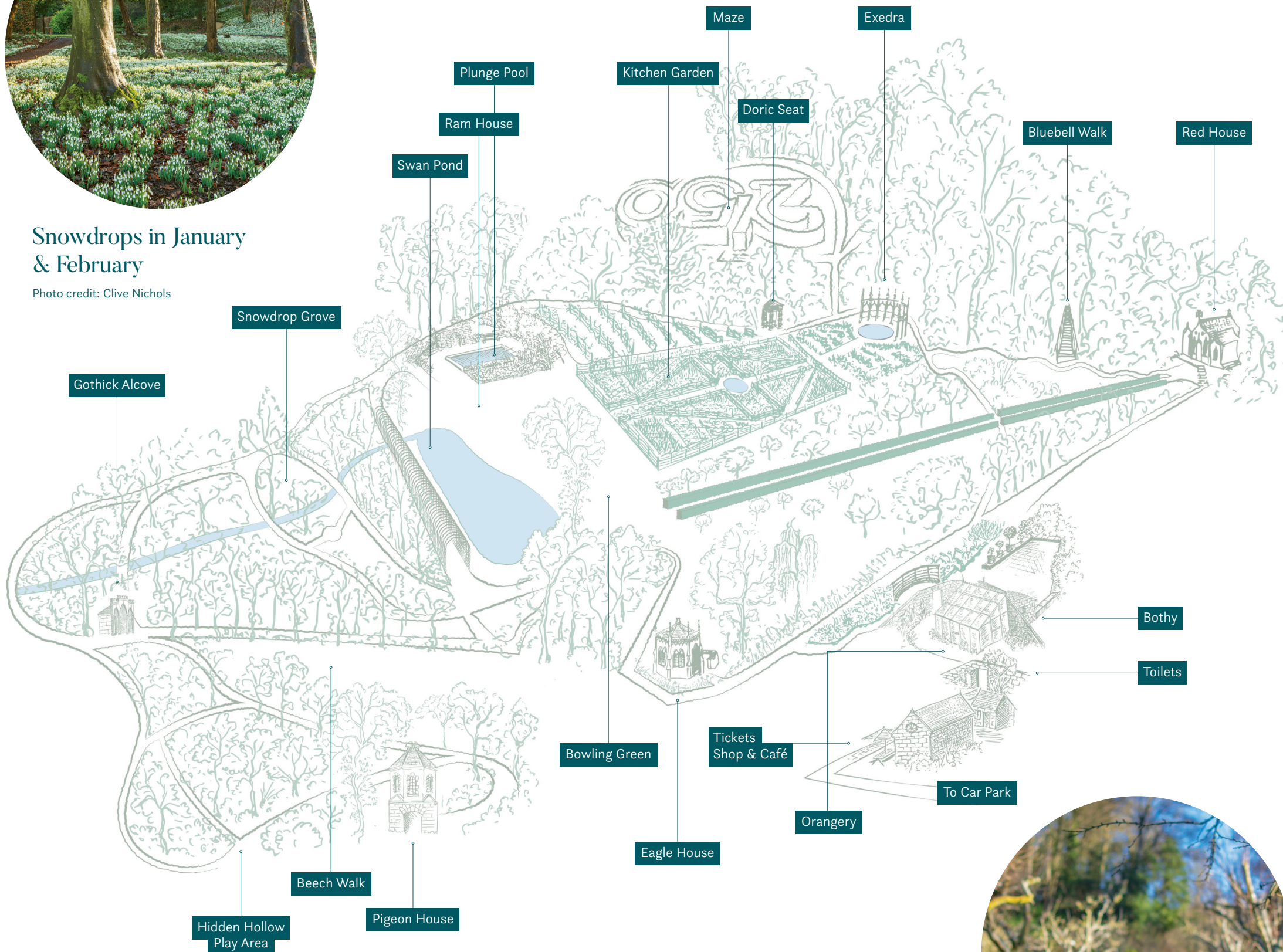
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Snowdrops in January & February

Photo credit: Clive Nichols



New Guide book

Find out the whole story behind our unique and historic Garden, available in our shop – just £3

rococogarden.org.uk

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Spring bulbs in March

Photo credit: Mouse About Town

Event highlights 2020

Family Easter Trail "Rococo Eggsplorers"

Saturday 4 – Sunday 19 April
10.30-5pm daily



"En plein air" speed painting event

Come for the day, paint and enjoy the beautiful Garden. Have some fun, get your work judged by experts in their field and a chance to win some amazing prizes. Visit our website for registration details.

Saturday 25 April
10.30-4.30pm

Linger

Take the weight off and enjoy our exhibition of fanciful 'sitting places' bringing together creative garden seating made by artists, designer-makers and artisans from around the region.

Saturday 16 May – Sunday 6 September

The Great British Bee weekend

Family activities and bee keeping demonstrations by Stroud Beekeepers

Saturday 23 & Sunday 24 May, 10.30-3.30pm

Family Summer Holiday Trail

Saturday 18 July – Monday 31 August,
10.30-5pm daily

The Handlebards

Bicycle-powered riotous Shakespeare.

Comedy of Errors (Gents)

Thursday 25 June, 6.30pm

Macbeth (Ladies)

Friday 3 July, 6.30pm

Tickets: handlebards.com

IK Productions – The Wizard of Oz

Monday 31 August, 2.30pm

Tickets: everymantheatre.org.uk

Family Autumn Festival

Saturday 24 & Sunday 25 October
10.30-3.30pm

Carol Concert in St Mary's Church, Painswick

Friday 4 December, 6.30pm